

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Examiner has required restriction between two inventions, namely, the following:

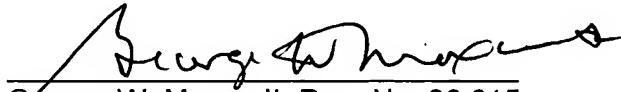
Group I: Claim(s) 1-5, 16-21, and 32 drawn to a stent balloon apparatus;
and

Group II: Claim(s) 6-15, 22-31, 33-42, drawn to a method of manufacturing the apparatus.

Applicant elects Group I, claims 1-5, 16-21 and 32 with traverse. Because the process is simply the step of making the stent of Group I. Examination of this application would necessarily involve a search for both; and so maintaining these inventions in the same application would not be burdensome to the examination process. Claim 32 has not been discussed, but it is assumed that it will be treated with Claims 1-5 and 16-21 since it is directed to the use of the stent of Claims 1-5 and 16-21. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the restriction requirement is respectfully requested. Applicants further elect the species in Group I, the stent and method of making the stent.

Should the Examiner have any questions or wish to discuss any of the foregoing in more detail, the undersigned attorney would welcome a telephone call.

Respectfully submitted,



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